

# WHSPA High Notes



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Issue 2  
May 2022

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## From the Principal's desk .....

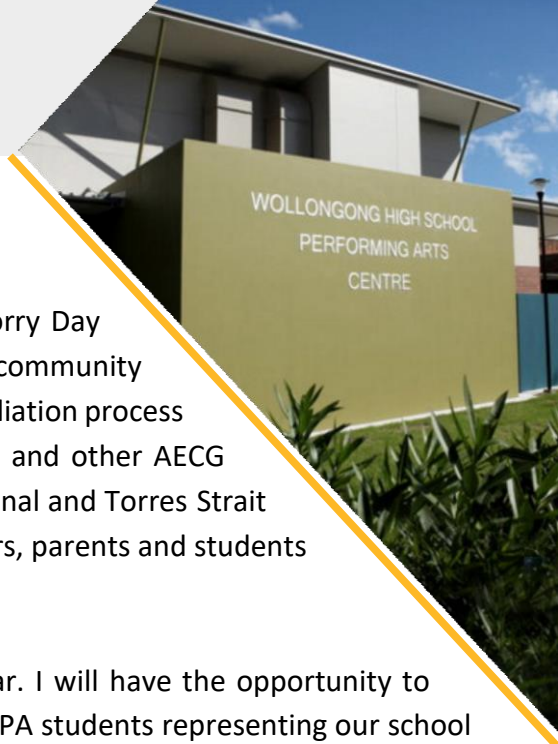
A huge thank you to Ms Lampe and the TAS staff for organising the Sorry Day Breakfast at the school recently. It was wonderful to welcome our local community members to the school as we came together and reflected on the Reconciliation process and to acknowledge the Stolen Generation Survivors. Julie Steet-Smith and other AECG members were also present at the school on the day as were our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and their families. It was also great to welcome teachers, parents and students from our Primary Partner schools.

The South Coast Dance Festival is now once again back on our calendar. I will have the opportunity to attend this event later in the week and I am always so proud of the WHSPA students representing our school at this incredible showcase of local dance talent. I must acknowledge the efforts of the WHSPA Dance teachers – Mr Richards, Ms Ireland and Ms Zappia as well as our Dance tutors for their incredible work with our students.

One of the school focus areas is embedding Literacy and Numeracy initiatives across the school in all KLAs. Recently, the staff at WHSPA held a professional development session lead by Mr Phasavath, Ms Griffiths, Dr Mackriel and Mrs Petersen. Professional Learning also forms the basis of WHSPAs Executive Meetings which in turn forms the basis of Faculty meetings. This initiative aims to provide improved student learning outcomes with the consolidated approach across the entire school.

Recently, Years 7 and 9 took part in the NAPLAN tests. This year, all NAPLAN tests were held online. Over the last two years, WHSPA has invested in providing improved Wi-Fi connectivity across the school and in particular in the school hall. Students benefited greatly in being able to sit these exams with a minimum level of connectivity issues. Staff supervising these exams were in high praise of the students in the way they approached these exams. Mention must be made of Ms Griffiths who was tireless in her efforts with arranging these exams.

Year 11 will present their production of Ruby Moon later this term. The Australian play by Matt Cameron was once one of the HSC Drama texts to be studied, but now forms part of the Preliminary Drama HSC course. It will be wonderful to experience live theatre again in the WHSPAC. I look forward to watching our Year 11 students as they present their directorial concept of this wonderfully intriguing play.





## From the Principal's desk .....

Recently, the school held its Meet and Greet event for students in Years 7 and 8 and their parents. The open night was a fabulous opportunity for parents to visit the various learning environments in the school and see all the incredible learning experiences that are on offer to our students. Due to Covid, we have been unable to welcome parents onto the school grounds for such a long time. I was so proud of all the performances, presentations and demonstrations that took place on the night. We have an incredible staff here at the school and they are so committed to provide the most exceptional learning experiences for your child/children.

**Paul Ryan**

Principal

## Attendance

### Attendance - Every day Counts

If your child has to be absent from school, you must tell the school and provide a reason for your child's absence.

#### Justified reasons for absences may include the student:

- Having an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably, these should be made after school or during holidays)
- Being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- Being required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral)
- Being sick, or having an infectious disease.

#### Absences for reasons such as some of the following may not be justified:

- Shopping
- Sleeping in
- Working around the house
- Minding younger siblings and other children
- Minor family events such as birthdays
- Hair cuts

### Holidays

Family holidays and travel related absences now require an application to be submitted to the Principal **PRIOR** to the leave taking place. Families are encouraged to take holidays with their child during school holidays and the Principal will decline the leave if they believe it is not in the best interest of the student. Please see the front office if you require an application form.

### Sport

Sport and other physical activities help the healthy physical and mental development of children. Sports and sports carnivals are normal school activities and students must attend.

**Anthony Kalsow**

HT Administration

# Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Build friendships



Develop life skills



## Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

**1** day per **fortnight**  
 = **4** weeks  = Over **1** year missed

**1** day per **week**  
 = **8** weeks  = Over **2.5** years missed



## PDHPE Faculty .....

### Open Girls Basketball Team

On 4 May 2022 and 5 May 2022 our Open Girls Basketball team made the five and a half hour long bus ride to Narrandera. After arriving in the afternoon, the girls checked out some of the local attractions and had a BBQ dinner before getting an early night ready for their game against Narrandera High School the next morning.

The girls played their round against a very tall and much older group of girls and unfortunately lost the game. The girls played with high intensity and showed real heart playing in a tough match against tough opposition and surrounded by the entire school body of Narrandera High School in the stadium.

The girls were amazing ambassadors for WHSPA and I want to thank them for making this a great trip even though the final result did not go our way. I would also like to thank Mrs MacDonald for all her efforts over the course of the trip to help make it run smoothly. Finally I would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Ryan for his support of the girls basketball team as they moved through the multiple levels of competition to reach top 32 in the state.

The team was:

**Tegan Myers**

**Amelia Cotter**

**Yasmin Laudato**

**Zara Whittemore**

**Mali Towers**

**Shae Clark**

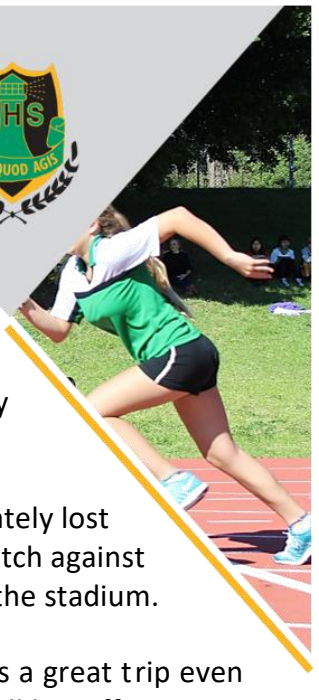
**Annika Purvis**

**Olivia Pupovac**

**Luke Cotter**

Coach

Teacher Science



# PDHPE Faculty .....

## NSW CHS Swimming Carnival 2022

Congratulations to our swimmers who represented our school so proudly at the NSW CHS Swimming Championships at Sydney Aquatic Centre on Friday 1 April 2022. So many of our swimmers and relay teams made finals. Special mention to Teagan Myers for winning a Bronze in 100m Breast Stroke, Jake McCreadie winning a silver in 100m Back Stroke and Maddison Wood for being awarded the South Coast Achievement Award.

## WHSPA REGIONAL SWIMMING TEAM 2022

Congratulations to all our swimmers at the 2022 NSW CHS Swimming Carnival at Homebush.

You are amazing!

Our Swimmers include:

**Maddison Wood**  
**Veronica Simmons-Curcio**  
**Jake McCreadie**  
**Eden Lawrence**  
**Yolanda Figgis**  
**Kaitlyn Formosa**  
**Teagan Myers**  
**Elise Blackwell Collins**  
**Lillian Joy**  
**Hayley Crisp**  
**Isabella Jones**  
**Ruby Phillips**  
**Olivia Pupovac**  
**Jed Phillips**  
**Wade Bower**  
**Jacob Donev**  
**Noah Kovacs**  
**Albert Wollen**  
**Noah Luu**  
**Mayana Lonergan**  
**Heidi Kolenda**  
**Everleigh Read**  
**Xavier English-Nelson**

**Edith MacDonald**  
Teacher PDHPE





# PDHPE Faculty .....



## Zone Cross Country

We had some awesome results at Zone Cross Country this year.

Congratulations to:

17 Boys: Jayden Simpson 1st & Ben Eady 6th.

17 Girls: Lily Tonge 2nd, Teagan Myers 3rd & Mireille Pugin 6th.

16 Boys: Rojan Fernandez 9th.

16 Girls: Poppy Black 2nd & Daisy Faulkner 16th.

15 Boys: Elliot Fisher 8th, Dominic Batten 19th, Rhett Mattock 20th, Bomkot RowChol 24th, Dylan Delfie 25th & Christian Mihajlovic.

15 Girls: Romany Jansen 5th, Georgia Tate 11th, Georgia Khouri 18th, Sylvie Figgis 19th & Lucy Shipway 20th.

14 Girls: Mischa Lawson 3rd & Finlay Reid 8th.

13 Boys: Sam Peoples 3rd\*, Seattle Bazley 2nd\*, Oliver Smede 4th\*, Ethan Lappan 20th, Evan Lappan 23rd, Tom Haines 26th & Bryn Fuller 27th.

13 Girls: Milla Harpley 3rd, Ella Foran 13th, Ahlyra Ward 14th, Kylie Neilson 21st & Fortuna Gebreyesys.

12 Boys: Noah Kovacs 7th, Albert Wollen 10th, Noah Luu & Ari Galvan.

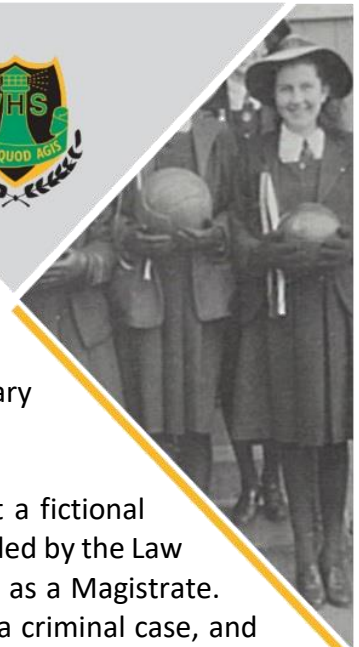
12 Girls: Olivia Pupovac 2nd, Samara Dale 5th, Maricar Santillan, Abbey Battista 9th, Mayana Longergan & Heidi Kolenda.

## Fleur Williams

Teacher PDHPE



## HSIE Faculty .....



### 2022 Mock Trial Competition

For the past 30 years the Law Society of New South Wales has been conducting an Inter-School Mock Trial Competition. Together with over 300 other New South Wales secondary schools, Wollongong High is once again participating in this event.

Mock trials are simulated court cases in which the participating student teams contest a fictional legal dispute, with some based on actual cases. The case materials for the trials are provided by the Law Society and the trial is presided over by a senior member of the legal profession acting as a Magistrate. Teams are given the opportunity of preparing a case for the prosecution or defence in a criminal case, and plaintiff or defence in a civil case. Roles that the students take consist of barrister, solicitor, witness, court officer and magistrate's assistant.

By taking part in the competition students not only get an introduction to the law and legal processes, but learn vital skills in research, analysis and lateral thinking. Students also develop strong communication skills, confidence in addressing an audience, taking responsibility within a team and are given the opportunity to meet with their peers from different backgrounds and regions.

Three rounds of the competition have been held so far which were against St Mary's Star of the Sea College, Frensham College Mittagong and St John Bosco College Engadine. The 2022 Wollongong High School Mock Trial Team consists of representatives from Year 11 and students have had the opportunity of taking on various roles over the past three rounds. Team members are as follows:

**Ava Barnaby** (barrister, solicitor)

**Lucy Beale** (barrister, solicitor)

**Milo Dowson** (witness)

**Tran Ngo** (court officer)

**Erin O'Halloran** (witness)

**Evan Robinson** (barrister)

**Mada Siagian** (witness, court officer)

**James Snashall** (barrister)

**Suzanne van Alphen** (solicitor, witness)

**Kiki Cuda-Coopes** (witness)

**Holly Rydquist** (witness)



Team members have given up many of their lunch breaks to prepare for the cases. They are to be commended on the commitment they have shown to the competition.



## HSIE Faculty .....



*Students hard at work preparing for the court case*



The third round of the competition was held on Thursday 23 February against St John Bosco College Engadine. Our team formed the defence in a civil case. Following strong performances by all team members our team won the round of the competition.

In the coming weeks our Mock Trial team will be busy preparing for their next case. The fourth round is scheduled to be completed by mid-July.

We wish our competitors the best of luck!

Nicholas Stanojevic, David Brennan and Vicki Strudwick  
Mock Trial Coaches  
Teachers HSIE

### **Year 10 Geography at Warilla Beach**



On 24 March 2022 the Year 10 Geography classes conducted fieldwork at Warilla Beach. They were investigating coastal processes and the management of beach erosion. Students spent the day observing the dune reconstruction at North Warilla Beach in contrast with the erosion of South Warilla Beach and the attempts to save that end of the beach.

Despite the rainy weather, Year 10 had a brilliant day out and were treated to some frolicking dolphins and hot chips for lunch. Well done Year 10.

**Megan Wall**  
Teacher HSIE



# Visual Arts Faculty .....



## Year 10 Photography and Digital Media Excursion

Year 10 PDM put their camera skills to the test on a recent excursion to Port Kembla. Students have studied the compositional skills of Ansel Adams and Bernd and Hila Becher to document the built and natural landscape.

Students started their day at Hill 60 and worked their way through Port Kembla capturing scenes and moments on a chilly Autumn Day. We can't wait to share with you the final product.



**Rachael Dunstan**  
Teacher Visual Arts



## Year 8 Elective Textiles and Digital Technologies

The Year 8 Textiles and Digital Technologies class combined mastering the standard seam with a mini project. They turned their seam samples into a sample snake. The class had lots of fun learning to use the sewing machine, sewing on buttons and using ladder stitch to sew up their bellies.

In Term Two the class will be making Tote bags with a variety of fabric decoration techniques such as Tie Dyeing.



**Rachel Jospe**  
Head Teacher TAS



# English Faculty .....

## Sydney Writer's Festival

Year 9 English students attended the Sydney Writer's Festival in Sydney Town Hall to meet some popular authors of Young Adult fiction. Students listened to a range of talks and interviews and were given the opportunity to meet authors, ask questions, and to purchase signed copies of books.

Some student thoughts on the day:

*'I learnt that you need to read widely to create a new and interesting book within the genre you are writing in.'* - Ava Dupont

*"I learnt that some books have a deep personal meaning from past experiences which may've inspired them to write a novel"* - Ruby

*"I learnt that it takes time and patience to write and comprehend a great book or novel"* - Quaylah Davey

*"Today at the Writers Festival, I learned that you don't need a whole lot of tiny details to take a reader somewhere, you just need one or two carefully chosen ones".* – Glyn Savage

**Linda Betts**

Teacher English



## Wellbeing .....

### WHSPA Harmony Day

The key message of this Harmony Week is 'Everyone Belongs'.

We celebrated Australian multiculturalism, and the successful integration of migrants into our community.

Australia is one of the most successful multicultural countries in the world, and we should celebrate this - but we also have to work to maintain it.

Harmony Week is about inclusiveness, respect, and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values.

Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Week. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. Did you know nearly half (49 per cent) of Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was? Start a conversation with your friends about their family heritage.



The day also coincided with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Racism of any form is not tolerated at WHSPA.



## Wellbeing .....

Thank you for all of the gold coin donations today, WHSPA raised \$1481 for Save the Children Foundation, who aim to protect children from abuse and neglect, provide access to healthcare and education, and to assist children in times of emergency.

The SRC put together various activities - a harmony inspired photo booth, designing diversity hands and a family crest, country and flag trivia and making some adorable harmony inspired bracelets! There was also an SRC bake sale, an "International-edition" of music with a dance comp, and a sausage sizzle.

Our final thing to add is that we felt, as an SRC, to acknowledge how very lucky we are to live in a very harmonious country right now, and that other countries may not be this way. The current humanitarian crisis in Ukraine may be distressing for some. That is why we felt it important to choose a charity that would use a portion of our raised funds in providing humanitarian aid to countries in conflict, such as Ukraine right now. We also want to remind anyone who is feeling overwhelmed with events right now to reach out to any of our amazing wellbeing teachers who can be found in the wellbeing hub at the top of B block. We encourage you to talk to Mrs Whelan, Mr Gilbert, Emma D the SSO, or the school counsellors, Andrew or Emma if you feel in need of extra support.

Thank you WHSPA Community for a great Harmony Day!!

**Heidi Whelan, Braiden Gilbert, Fleur Williams and Emma Davidson**  
2022 Harmony Day Coordinators

### Year 10 Study Skills Day

This week Dr Prue Salter from Enhanced Learning Educational Services ([www.enhanced-learning.net](http://www.enhanced-learning.net)) ran a study skills session with Year 10.

The session focused on helping students identify changes and improvements they could make to their approach to their studies in order to maximise their results in their final years of school. The main areas covered with Year 10 were working effectively in the evenings and dealing with distractions, managing time efficiently, planning for assessments, making brain-friendly study notes on a regular basis and using a wide variety of active study techniques to suit individual learning preferences.

Parents are encouraged to review the handout from the session with students and discuss the main areas identified where changes need to be made. Parents can also find extra study skills tips on the following website: <http://studyskillstoptipsparents.com/>.



*Prue  
Salter*

**Emily Ireland**  
Head Teacher Secondary Studies



# HOMework CLUB

LOCATED IN THE HUB; Monday Afternoons, 2.10pm  
- 3.10pm. Bring your homework and/or  
assessment tasks.




SUPERVISED BY EMMA D (SSO / STUDENT  
WELLBEING)















# Parent Information .....



## WHSPA SENIOR EXECUTIVE STAFF

	<b>Paul Ryan</b>	<b>Principal</b>
	<b>Bryce O'Connor</b>	<b>Deputy Principal – Years 8, 10 &amp; 12</b>
	<b>Kylie Wood</b>	<b>Deputy Principal – Years 7, 9 &amp; 11</b>

## WHSPA EXECUTIVE STAFF

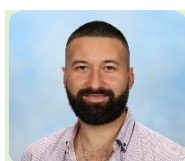
	<b>Apple Phasavath</b>	<b>Head Teacher <i>English</i></b>		<b>Ruth Ellevsen</b>	<b>Head Teacher <i>Music</i></b>
	<b>Lorien Mackreill</b>	<b>Head Teacher <i>Mathematics</i></b>		<b>Chris Richards</b>	<b>Head Teacher <i>PA</i></b>
	<b>Marc Kates</b>	<b>Head Teacher <i>Science</i></b>		<b>Emily Ireland</b>	<b>Head Teacher Secondary Studies &amp; <i>Visual Arts</i></b>
	<b>Vicki Strudwick</b>	<b>Head Teacher <i>HSIE</i></b>		<b>Caitlin Griffiths (<i>rel</i>)</b>	<b>Head Teacher Administration Procedures &amp; <i>Languages</i></b>
	<b>David Arthur</b>	<b>Head Teacher <i>PDHPE</i></b>		<b>Heidi Whelan</b>	<b>Head Teacher Wellbeing – Girls</b>
	<b>Rachel Jospe</b>	<b>Head Teacher <i>TAS</i></b>		<b>Braiden Gilbert</b>	<b>Head Teacher Wellbeing – Boys</b>

# Parent Information .....



## YEAR ADVISORS – 2022

First point of contact for ANY issues concerning students within their year group.



Nicholas Stanojevic

[nicholas.stanojevic4@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:nicholas.stanojevic4@det.nsw.edu.au)

Year 7  
Year Advisor



Armi Wilson

[armi.wilson1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:armi.wilson1@det.nsw.edu.au)

Year 8  
Year Advisors



Kirsty Andersen

[kirsty.andersen@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kirsty.andersen@det.nsw.edu.au)



George Broadfoot

[george.broadfoot4@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:george.broadfoot4@det.nsw.edu.au)

Year 9  
Year Advisor



Melissa Meafou

[melissa.meafou1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:melissa.meafou1@det.nsw.edu.au)

Year 10  
Year Advisor



Kylie Burnard

[kylie.burnard@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kylie.burnard@det.nsw.edu.au)

Year 11  
Year Advisors



Molly Moyes

[molly.moyes1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:molly.moyes1@det.nsw.edu.au)

Year 12  
Year Advisor



# Parent Information .....



## WELL-BEING & LEARNING SUPPORT - 2022



**Leanne King**  
*Learning and Support Teacher*  
[leanne.king1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:leanne.king1@det.nsw.edu.au)

Provide learning and support for students who are having difficulty with their general learning or have diagnosed learning conditions.



**Kate Mitchell**  
*Learning and Support Teacher*  
[kate.mitchell52@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kate.mitchell52@det.nsw.edu.au)

Provide learning and support for students who are having difficulty with their general learning or have diagnosed learning conditions.



**Emma Davidson**  
*Wellbeing HUB SLSO*  
[emma.davidson1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:emma.davidson1@det.nsw.edu.au)

Provide support to students within a safe and quiet environment in order to be able to re-engage with classroom learning as quickly as possible.



**Heidi Whelan**  
*Head Teacher Wellbeing – Girls*  
[heidi.whelan@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:heidi.whelan@det.nsw.edu.au)

Girls mentor. Oversees the team and provides assistance to students, staff and parents when required. Point of contact for multicultural students.



**Braiden Gilbert**  
*Head Teacher Wellbeing – Boys*  
[braiden.gilbert1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:braiden.gilbert1@det.nsw.edu.au)

Boys mentor. Oversees the team and provides assistance to students, staff and parents when required. Point of contact for medical conditions of students.



**Liane Pfister**  
*Teacher-Librarian & School Media Liaison*  
[liane.pfister1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:liane.pfister1@det.nsw.edu.au)

Oversees the Library and provides assistance to students, staff and parents with all library related support. Coordinates media and publicity.

# Parent Information ....



## DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>JUNE</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Book Week Mufti Day</b>
	<b>6</b>	<b>Year 7 &amp; 9 Parent Teacher Interviews</b>
	<b>13</b>	<b>Queen's Birthday Public Holiday</b>
	<b>20</b>	<b>Years 8 &amp; 10 Parent Teacher Interviews</b>
	<b>27</b>	<b>NAIDOC Week Mufti Day</b>

<b>JULY</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Staff Development Day</b>
	<b>18 - 29</b>	<b>Year 12 HSC Trial Examinations</b>

<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>P&amp;C Meeting</b>
	<b>9</b>	<b>Year 8 Subject Selection Evening</b>
	<b>10</b>	<b>Immunisations Year 10</b>